

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION**

In re: BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.,) Master File No. IP 00-9373-C-B/S
TIRES PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION) MDL NO. 1373
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THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL)
ACTIONS)

ENTRY REGARDING MOTIONS FOR EXTENSION OF EXPERT DEADLINE

Both the class action plaintiffs and the personal injury plaintiffs in this cause have filed motions seeking an extension of the January 10, 2002, deadline for the identification of expert witnesses. In light of the court's recent ruling on the motion for class certification, the magistrate judge determines that the class plaintiffs' motion is well taken, and a 14-day extension of the deadline is in order. In order to avoid confusion, the magistrate judge further determines that it is appropriate to extend the deadline for the personal injury cases as well. While the plaintiffs' motions seek only an extension of the January 10, 2002, deadline for disclosing expert witnesses, the magistrate judge determines that it is appropriate to extend all of the deadlines related to expert witnesses by 14 days. In addition, because of the likely relevance of expert witness discovery to motions for summary judgment, the deadline for filing motions for summary judgment is also extended by 14 days.

Accordingly, Paragraphs A and B of the Supplemental Order Amending Certain Case Management Deadlines, dated November 30, 2001, are **AMENDED** as follows:

- A. For all cases in this action filed in this court¹ on or before June 30, 2001, with the exception of those cases arising from foreign accidents that are subject to the

¹ The applicable date is the date the file was opened in this court.

defendants' pending motions to dismiss on forum non conveniens grounds, the following deadlines will apply:

1. The parties shall exchange lists identifying expert witnesses and the topics on which they may offer expert testimony on or before **January 24, 2002**;
2. The plaintiffs shall serve their expert witness reports by **February 25, 2002**; the defendants shall serve their expert witness reports by **March 27, 2002**;
3. The parties shall exchange lists identifying supplemental experts who will offer expert opinions on topics for which another party has identified an expert, but for which the supplementing party has not yet identified an expert, by **February 25, 2002**;
4. The parties' supplemental expert witness reports shall be served by **March 27, 2002**;
5. Discovery related to those expert witnesses whose opinions will be relevant to motions for summary judgment shall be completed by **April 11, 2002**; all remaining discovery related to expert witnesses shall be completed by **May 29, 2002**.

B. For all class action and personal injury and wrongful death cases in this action filed in this court on or before June 30, 2001, with the exception of those cases arising from foreign accidents that are subject to the defendants' pending motions to dismiss on forum non conveniens grounds:

1. Motions for summary judgment shall be filed by **April 15, 2002**, and shall be

briefed in accordance with Local Rule 56.1. Therefore, responses shall be filed within 30 days of the motions and replies shall be filed within 15 days of the responses.

NO OTHER DEADLINES ARE AFFECTED BY THIS ORDER. IN ADDITION, THE PARTIES SHOULD NOT EXPECT ANY FURTHER EXTENSION OF THESE OR OTHER DEADLINES, ABSENT EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

ENTERED this _____ day of January 2002.

V. Sue Shields
United States Magistrate Judge
Southern District of Indiana

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